

# GOSPEL OF JOHN

## Introduction

When compared with the four Gospels, John is in another class. The synoptic, Matthew, Mark and Luke, Gospels contain many similar examples, style and structure. John contains no parables and only two miracles like the synoptic gospels. Yet it has five additional miracles and numerous accounts that stress personal relationships and gives no ethical teachings about the kingdom. The style is simple and at the same time very thought provoking.

John's central purpose was to report the signs so we the readers will believe Jesus is the Christ. (Other Gospels call the signs miracles.) The key word of the Gospel is "believe". You will find it ninety-eight times tucked into the passages throughout the Gospel. John points clearly to the assurance that to "believe in" Jesus Christ is to have possession of eternal life.

**The Key word of the Gospel of  
John is "believe".**

John boldly introduces Jesus in chapter one as the Word or logos. As the essence of God, Jesus, is presented as the Lamb of God. Jesus is the Son of God is repeated many times. Salvation by believing that is having faith toward Jesus is presented many times. Though Jesus' divine nature is seen, we are also given the humanity of Jesus. Jesus was seen when he was weary, impatient, sorrowful, appreciative, and loving. (see: John 4:6-7; 6:26-27; 8:44; 11:35; 12:7, 27; 13:1; 18:8, 23) John includes what he witnessed as a disciple; so many intimate events in the life of Christ are recorded. He: saw Jairus' daughter resurrected from the dead (Mark 5:22-23); was one of three disciples who attended the transfiguration (Mark 9:2); was in the Garden of Gethsemane (Matthew 26:37); saw the ascension (Acts 1:11 "Ye men of Galilee"); saw the cleansed leper (Acts 3:1, 3); was pastor to the Church at Ephesus; was visited by God while exiled on the Isle of Patmos (Revelation 1:1-4).

John records that Jesus used the "I AM" in His messages. Jesus boldly claimed I AM: the bread of life (6:35); the Light of the world (8:12; 9:5); the Door (10:7); the Good Shepherd (10:11,14); the Resurrection and the Life (11:25); the Way and the truth and the Life (14:6); and the True Vine (15:1).

John the son of Zebedee wrote the Gospel bearing his name and is unique since he is known as "the disciple whom Jesus loved" and the one commissioned from the cross to care for Jesus' earthly responsibility, Mary. John was fishing in Galilee (Mark 1:19-20) when Jesus called him. John and his brother James (who was an early martyr) joined Andrew and Peter in becoming disciples. His mother was Salome who was probably the sister of Mary the mother of Jesus. (see Matthew 27:56; Mark 15:40; John 19:25). John may have been the companion of Andrew as one of the disciples of John the Baptist (John 1:40).

Because of the witnessing of the divine revelation confirming Jesus as the Son of God at the time of the transfiguration the narratives are powerfully recorded for our edification. It is likely that John recorded this book at Ephesus, 85 to 90 AD. Later he was buried here according to the writing of Polycrates.

# GOSPEL OF JOHN

## I. PROLOGUE

### A. The Eternal God John 1:1-18

1. The Word John 1:1-3; 14
  - a. Eternal Word John 1:1-2; 8:58
  - b. Creative Word John 1:3; Psalms 33:9; Colossians 1:16
  - c. Incarnate Word John 1:14; I John 1:1-2
2. The Light John 1:4-13
  - a. Light of Life and Light of the World John 8 :12
  - b. Sun of Righteousness Malachi 4:2
  - c. Breath of Life John 3:8; 20:22
  - d. Water of Life John 4:10, 13-14; 7:37-39
  - e. Living Bread of Life John 6:35
  - f. HE IS LIFE John 14:6; 1:12-13
3. The Son of God John 1:16-18
  - a. He is Eternal John 1:15
  - b. He has fullness of grace and truth Jn. 1:16-17
  - c. He reveals God to us John 1:18
    - 1) "The image of the invisible God" Col. 1:15
    - 2) "Express image of His power" Hebrews 1:3

## II. JESUS' PUBLIC MINISTRY JOHN 1:19-12:50

- A. The Voice in the wilderness John 1:19-28 John the Baptist  
Isaiah 40:1-3
- B. The Lamb of God John 1:29-34
  1. The lamb of God takes away sin of the whole world
  2. The sacrificial Lamb of God Luke 12:50; Isaiah 53:7
- C. The first Disciples John 1:35-41
  1. Disciples of John the Baptist John 1:37
  2. Andrew and Simon Peter John 1:40-41
- D. The King of Israel John 1:43-49
  1. Nathanael declared John 1:49
  2. Confessed to Pilate to be King John 18:33-37
- E. The Son of Man John 1:50-51 as the living link between  
Heaven and earth John 14:6

## III. LEARNING ABOUT JESUS JOHN 2

- A. His Glory 2:1-12 Wedding at Cana
  1. Jesus the Guest John 2:1-2
  2. Jesus the Son John 2:3-5
  3. Jesus the Host John 2:6-12
- B. His Zeal John 2:12-23
  1. Cleanses the Temple at Jerusalem Jn. 2:13-17
  2. Predicted the death and resurrection of Jesus John 2:17-22
  3. His Knowledge John 2:23-25 Jesus knew what was in the hearts of men.

#### **IV. A MATTER OF LIFE AND DEATH JOHN 3**

- A. Jesus Christ the Teacher John 3:1-21
  - 1. John 3: 1-3 This story is only recorded in John.
  - 2. The new birth introduced John 3:3
  - 3. The nature of the new birth John 3:5-6
  - 4. The basis of the new birth John 3:14
  - 5. The terms of the new birth John 3:15-18
  - 6. The consequences of unbelief John 3:36
- B. John exalts Christ John 3: 22-30
  - 1. John and Jesus baptizing John 3:22-23
  - 2. John honors Jesus John 3:27,30
  - 3. The Spirit is not by measure to Jesus John 3:34

#### **V. THE BAD SAMARITAN JOHN 4**

- A. The Bad Samaritan - John 4 1-30 Only recorded in John
  - 1. Jacobs well at Sychar John 4:1-5
  - 2. The Samaritan woman John 4:7
    - a. Jesus introduces Living water John 4: 10-14
    - b. Jesus exposes the Samaritan woman's sin John 4:16-18
    - c. True worshipers explained John 4:24
    - d. The woman's testimony John 4:29-42
    - e. Jesus' food was not physical only. John 4:32-34
    - f. Jesus' miracles affected the Galileans John 4:45
  - 3. The Nobleman's son healed John 4:46-54
    - a. The second miracle in Galilee John 4: 54

#### **VI. LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON, EQUAL TO GOD JOHN 5**

- A. Healing on the Sabbath day John 5:5-12 This is recorded only in John
  - 1. At the pool of Bethesda John 5:1-2
  - 2. Infirmary 38 yrs. John 5: 5
  - 3. The cure John 5: 6-9
  - 4. The controversy John 5:16-18
  - 5. The claims: Like Father like Son John 5:19-47
    - a. Authority: Honor the Father and Son 5:19-23
    - b. Life and Judgment are through the Son 5:24-30
      - i. Four Resurrections:
        - 1. Of Lost who hear and live to Eternal Life John 5:25
        - 2. Of the LORD himself John 5:26
        - 3. Future resurrection of Life, when believers are resurrected from dead John 8:28-29a
        - 4. Resurrection of condemnation involves only lost John 8:29b
    - c. Fourfold witness John 5:31-47
      - i. Witness of John the Baptist John 5:5-35
      - ii. Witness of Miracles John 5:36
      - iii. Witness of Word of Father John 5:37-47
      - iv. Witness of the Scripture John 5:39

## VII. GREAT SIGNS AND HARD SAYINGS JOHN 6

- A. Feeding the Five Thousand John 6: 1-14. Other ref.: Matt. 14:15-21; Mark.6:32-44; Luke.9:12-17
  - 1. Great multitude followed because of the miracles John. 6:2
  - 2. The disciples tested. Where shall we buy bread? John. 6:5-7
  - 3. There is a lad here. Erasmus (Theopholis)
  - 4. Make the men set down- much grass-gave thanks, blessed, broke and distributed food John 6:10-11
  - 5. Twelve baskets –12 disciples John 6:12

## VIII. JESUS WALKS ON THE WATER JOHN 6

- A. Jesus walks on water 6:15-21 Other References: Matt. 14:22-32; Mark. 6: 45-52
- B. Jesus escapes to the mountain to be alone Jn 6: 15
  - 1. The disciples went by boat and got into a storm. Jn.6; 18
  - 2. Jesus appeared to them walking on the water. John 6: 19
  - 3. His, “ be not afraid” or similar phrase “fear not” appears through out the Bible over 380 times. John 6:20
- C. Jesus: The Bread of Life. John 6:22-29
  - 1. Sought after by the people (other boats from Tiberias) John 6:22-24
  - 2. Seeking for Jesus John 6:24
  - 3. Notice the expression “ on the other side” John 6:25
  - 4. Their purpose in seeking Jesus exposed. John 6:26
  - 5. Seek spiritual food rather than physical Jn 6:27
  - 6. The work of God is to believe on Him. John 6:29
- D. Jesus sent from heaven John 6:30-59
  - 1. Explained about bread called manna John 6:30-32
  - 2. He claims to be the Bread of Life. John 6:34
  - 3. An open invitation to come to him. Explains personal salvation. Response murmuring- John 6:37-40
  - 4. Jesus does the “will of God” John 6:38-40
  - 5. The inability for the Jews to understand about Jesus “rejected by His Own” John 6:41-52
  - 6. A hard saying that caused many to forsake Him; “Except you eat my flesh and drink my blood” John 6:53-58
  - 7. Fight and quarrel over the terms of “flesh” and “blood” Response—departing Verses 60-71
  - 8. “It is the Spirit that gives Life; the flesh profiteth nothing.” John 6:63 (this verse should be memorized)
  - 9. Many return to old life, old religion, old hopeless situations
- E. Peter confesses his faith John 6: 66-71 Other references are: Matt. 16:13-20; Mark.8: 27-30; Luke 9: 18-21

## IX. THE FEAST JOHN 7

- A. Christ pressed by unbelieving brothers to go to Jerusalem John 7:1-9  
**Disbelief**
- B. Jesus at the Feast of Tabernacles John 7: 0-36
- C. Much murmuring among the Jews concerning Him and His teaching. John 7:10-15 **Dispute**

- D. Jesus confesses the source of His knowledge. John. 7:16-20
- E. The prophecy concerning the Holy Spirit John 7:37-39  
Other references are: Acts 2:2-4: John. 4:14
- F. The divided opinion about Jesus, and the resulting **Division** at the end of the Feast John 7:40-53

## **X. CONTRASTS AND CONFLICTS JOHN 8**

- A. The contrast between Law and Grace John 8: 1-11
  - 1. An adulteress woman was brought to Jesus by the Scribes and Pharisee's 8:1
  - 2. An accusation was made. 8:4-6
  - 3. Jesus tested the accusers 8:6-8
  - 4. Jesus quoted the law; " Let him that is without sin, cast the first stone 8:7
  - 5. The word of God brought conviction 8:9 They began to leave.
  - 6. Jesus question to the woman was, "where are thine accusers?"
  - 7. I have none, Lord. Recognizing him as Lord, met the requirement for salvation in Romans 10:9. "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth Jesus as Lord (the Lord Jesus) and shall believe with thine heart-- ----thou shalt be saved"
  - 8. Grace won over law."Neither do I condemn thee; go and sin no more."
- B. The Contrast between Light and Darkness John 8:12-20
  - 1. His claim, " I am the light of the World"
  - 2. The Pharisee' accusation, "thou bearest witness of thyself" 8:13
  - 3. Jesus answer was "Yet my witness is true" 8:14
  - 4. "Ye judge after the flesh", "I judge no man" 8:15
- C. The contrast between Truth and Error 8:13-20
  - 1. Notice these contrasts in 8:23
    - a. "Ye are from beneath-I am from above"
    - b. "Ye are of this world- I am not of this world"
    - c. "Ye shall die in your sins-I go to my father John 8:24
  - 2. Jesus defends his self-witness 8:13-20
- D. Life and Death --Jesus predicts His departure 8:21-30
- E. Of Freedom and bondage John 8:31-47
  - 1. Jesus declares that Truth brings Freedom John 8: 31-36
  - 2. The contrast between Himself and His Father compared to the Scribes and their father, the devil John 8:38 and John 8:44
- F. Honor and Dishonor John 8:48-59
  - 1. God's children know that Jesus is God's son. Anyone who doesn't believe this, like the Jews in this passage, are not God's sons. Even Abrahams' seed need to believe who Jesus is. John 8:52-59
  - 2. Preexistence of Jesus John 8:59 Before Abraham was "I AM".

## **XI. THE BLIND MAN CALLS THEIR BLUFF JOHN 9**

- A. A man called Jesus John 9:1-12
- B. A Prophet John 9:13-24
- C. A Man of God John 9:24-34
- D. The Son of God John 9:35-41

## **XII. THE GOOD SHEPHERD AND HIS SHEEP JOHN 10**

- A. I Am the Door John 10:1-10
- B. I Am the Good Shepherd John 10:11-13
  - 1. He dies for the sheep John 10:11-13
  - 2. He knows His sheep John 10:14-15
  - 3. He brings other sheep into the flock John 10:16
  - 4. He takes up His life again John 10:17-18
- C. I Am the Son of God John 10:22-42
  - 1. The encounter John 10:22-24
  - 2. An explanation John 10:25-38

## **XIII. THE LAST MIRACLE—THE LAST ENEMY JOHN 11**

- A. The Disciples John 11:1-16
- B. The Sisters John 11:17-40
- C. The Jews John 11:41-57

## **XIV. CHRIST AND THE CRISIS JOHN 12**

- A. Jesus and His friends John 12:1-11
- B. Jesus and the Passover Pilgrims John 12:12-19
- C. Jesus and the Gentile Visitors John 12:20-26
- D. Jesus and the Unbelieving Jews John 12:37-49

## **XV. THE SOVEREIGN SERVANT JOHN 13**

- A. Humility: Jesus and the Father John 13:1-5
  - 1. What our Lord knew John 13:1-3
  - 2. What our Lord did John 13:4-5
- B. Holiness: Jesus and Peter John 13:6-11
- C. Happiness: Jesus and the Disciples John 13:12-17
- D. Hypocrisy: Jesus and Judas John 13:18:35

## **XVI. HEART TROUBLE JOHN 14**

- A. You are going to Heaven John 13:36-14:6
- B. You know the Father right now John 14:7-11
- C. You have the privilege of prayer John 14:12-15
  - 1. Pray in faith John 14:12
  - 2. Pray in Christ's Name John 14:13-14
  - 3. Pray in loving obedience John 14:15
- D. We have the Holy Spirit John 14:16-18
- E. We enjoy the Father's love John 14:19-24
  - 1. Past manifestation to the disciples John 14:19-20
  - 2. Present manifestation of Himself to believers John 14:21, 23-24
  - 3. Future manifestation of God's love John 14:19,22
- F. You have His gift of peace John 14:25-31

## **XVII. RELATIONSHIPS AND RESPONSIBILITIES JOHN 15**

- A. Branches—we must abide John 15:1-17
  - 1. The Vine
  - 2. The Branches

- 3. The Vinedressers
- 4. The Fruit
- B. Friends—wisdom says obey John 15:12-17

#### **XVIII. THE DIVINE HELPER AND THE JOY JOHN 15-16**

- A. The Divine Helper the Holy Spirit John 15:18-16:16
  - 1. The Spirit as Comforter encourages the Church John 15:18-16:4
    - a. We are identified with Christ John 15:18,20
    - b. We do not belong to the world John 15:19
    - c. The world is spiritually ignorant and blind John 15:21
    - d. The world will not be honest about its own sin John 15:22-24
  - 2. The Spirit as reprover and Witnesses through the Church John 16:5-11
  - 3. The Spirit as Teacher Guides the Church John 16:12-15
- B. Let there be JOY John 16:16-33
  - 1. There is a Principle to Grasp John 16:16-22
  - 2. There is a Promise to Believe John 16:23-28
  - 3. There is a Position to Claim John 16:29-33

#### **XIX. THE PRAYER OF A LIFETIME JOHN 17**

- A. We share His life John 17:1-5; Jesus prays for Himself
- B. We know His Name John 17:6-12; Jesus prays for His Disciples
- C. We have His Word John 17:13-19;
- D. We share His Glory John 17:20-26:Jesus Prays for all Believers

#### **XX.GUILT AND GRACE IN THE GARDEN JOHN 18:1-27**

- A. The Garden – Obedience John 18:1
- B. The Kiss – Treachery John 18:2-9
- C. The Sword – Rebellion John 18:10
- D. The Cup – John 18:11-14
- E. The Fire – Denial John 18:15-27

#### **XXI. TRIAL BEFORE PONTIUS PILATE JOHN 18:28-19:16**

- A. What is the Accusation John 18:28-32
- B. “Are you the King of the Jews?” John 18:33-38
- C. “Shall I Release the King of the Jews?” John 18:39-19:7
- D. “Where are you From?” John 19:8-16

#### **XXII. THE KING ON A CROSS JOHN 19:17-42**

- A. Crucified John 19:18-27
- B. Dead John 19:28-32
- C. Buried John 19:31-42

#### **XXIII. DAWNING OF A NEW DAY JOHN 20:19-31**

- A. Faith Eclipsed John 20:1-2
- B. Faith Dawning John 20:3-10
- C. Faith Shining John 20:11-19

**XXIV. THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION JOHN 20:19-31**

- A. From **fear to courage** John 20:19-25
  - 1. He came to them
  - 2. He reassured them
  - 3. He commissioned them John 20:21
  - 4. He enabled them John 20:22
- B. From **unbelief to confidence** John 20:26-28
- D. From **death to life** John 20:29-31

**XXV. TRANSFORMED TO SERVE JOHN 21**

- A. We are **fishers** of men—Obey Him John 21:1-8
- B. We are **shepherds**—Love Him John 21:9-19
- C. We are **disciples**—Follow Him John 21:18-25

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**The disciple whom Jesus loved wrote to us of Jesus' love for us. The entire book may be read as a love letter to the reader.**

**School of the Bible participants NOTICE:**

When answering questions please:

- 1. Number each answer as you respond to the questions on the study of John.
- 2. Use short answers, (The address for sending the answers is on the answer sheet.)
- 3. Submit answers on a separate sheet of paper from the questions. You do not need to send the question sheets to Tri-State Christian TV—just the answers.

**Happy Bible study and THANK YOU!**